

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 AMMAN 05009 241417Z

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----033546 241420Z /40

P R 241259Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2937

INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L AMMAN 5009

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR, EAID, JO, IS, US

SUBJECT: MAQARIN WORKING PAPER

REF: STATE 200965

1. WE HAVE REACTED LESS SHARPLY THAN DEPARTMENT
TO ALON'S POSITION THAT IT WAS TIME TO END U.S.
ROLE IN YARMOUK WATER RIGHTS QUESTION AND BEGIN
"FACE-TO-FACE" ENCOUNTERS BETWEEN JORDAN AND ISRAEL
ON THE SUBJECT. OUR VIEW WAS PREDICATED ON THREE
ASSUMPTIONS: A) THIS IS NOT A NEW POSITION, BUT
SEEMS TO ARISE IN EACH OF OUR MEETINGS WITH THE
ISRAELIS ON THE ISSUE, AND AT EACH POINT SEEMS
TO SUBSIDE WHEN WE EXPLAIN OUR ROLE AND ITS PUR-
POSE; B) THE JORDANIANS, AS DEPARTMENT INDICATES,
DO NOT SEEM TO HAVE ANY INTEREST IN CARRYING
FORWARD A FACE-TO-FACE DIALOGUE WITH THE ISRAELIS
ON THE ISSUE, PARTLY BECAUSE THEY BELIEVE IN THE
ESSENTIALITY OF A U.S. ROLE TO PROVIDE THE BALANCE
BETWEEN THE PARTIES, PARTLY BECAUSE IN THE PRESENT
INTER-ARAB CONTEXT, ESPECIALLY WITH THE BEGIN
GOVERNMENT'S RECENT WEST BANK MOVES, A LEAK WOULD
BE EXTREMELY DAMAGING TO THEM; AND C) FINALLY,

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 AMMAN 05009 241417Z

WE HAVE SEEN SOME EVIDENCE THAT DAYAN RECOGNIZES
THAT FACE-TO-FACE ENCOUNTERS TEND TO PRODUCE
SUPER-HARD POSITIONS WHILE TALKING THROUGH THIRD
PARTIES ALLOWS EACH SIDE TO LET ITS HAIR DOWN A
BIT AND ALLOWS ALSO THE THIRD PARTY TO OPERATE AS
A "MATCHMAKER" IN THE ABSENCE OF WHICH AGREEMENT
IS MOST UNLIKELY.

2. GOJ REACTION TO ALON'S SUGGESTION--JORDAN
WOULD BE UNLIKELY NOW TO CONSIDER SERIOUSLY DIRECT
CONTACTS WITH THE ISRAELIS. GOJ WOULD BE VERY
MUCH HURT BY ANY LEAKS WHICH COULD NOT BE EXPLAINED
AWAY AS REFLECTING A U.S. MIDDLE-MAN ROLE RATHER
THAN DIRECT CONTACTS. THIS IS ESPECIALLY TRUE
NOW THAT PLO HAS STEPPED UP ITS PROPAGANDA ATTACKS
ON JORDAN AND THE KING FOR ALLEGED CONTACTS WITH
ISRAELIS.

3. WE HAD ASSUMED FROM QUICK DEBRIEF BY
SECRETARY'S PARTY HERE GIVEN TO CROWN PRINCE
HASSAN THAT BEGIN GOVERNMENT ALSO RETAINED SOME
POSITIVE INTEREST IN THE PROJECT AND THAT IT WAS
NOT OPPOSED TO OUR "INFORMAL GOOD OFFICES" ROLE
WHICH WAS WORKED OUT EXPLICITLY WITH FULL APPROVAL OF
LAST GOVERNMENT OF ISRAEL. WE WONDER WHETHER ALON IS WINGING
IT A BIT OR NOT? WE BELIEVE THAT WE SHOULD AWAIT ISRAEL'S
FORMAL COMMENTS ON OUR PAPER AND SEE WHETHER THE DESIRE
FOR DIRECT MEETINGS WITH JORDANIANS IS REPEATED.
IN THAT CASE, SUBJECT TO TEL AVIV'S JUDGEMENT, WE
BELIEVE THAT IT WOULD BE BEST TO EXPLAIN DIRECTLY
TO DAYAN THE PROBLEM AND GET HIS REACTION BEFORE
APPROACHING JORDANIANS OR TAKING ANY ADDITIONAL
STEPS.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 AMMAN 05009 241417Z

PICKERING

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PAPERS, DAMS, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 24-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977AMMAN05009
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770305-1024
Format: TEL
From: AMMAN
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770831/aaaaazjh.tel
Line Count: 95
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 8eb5de55-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 77 STATE 200965
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1509486
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MAQARIN WORKING PAPER
TAGS: PBOR, EAID, JO, IS, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/8eb5de55-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009